

ABSTRACT

5 A system and method is described for importing
data from a source computer system, manipulating and
transforming of that data, and exporting the data to a
target computer system under control of a script processor
using stored metadata definitions. Metadata is used to
describe the properties of the data being manipulated.
The system includes a means for manipulating the metadata
10 definitions. The metadata definitions are created to
import data into the system, export data from the system,
create views of the external data, store generic format
data within the system, manipulate generic format data
within the system and to control data flow through the
15 system. Data is imported into the system using an import
data definition to map the external data into an import
data bag. Data imported into an import data bag becomes
independent of the original data source. Data is
manipulated within the system using script control
20 commands and data is transformed within the system using
rule sets that act upon data bags. Data is exported from
the system using an export data definition to map the
import data bag into the required export data bag format
and then to write data in the export data bag to the
25 external data target.